

TIME

13 June 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Syndication of TIME Photographs Overseas

1. On Wednesday, 8 June 1977, during a meeting with Charles Quinn and Edward Fouhy of NBC, Fouhy mentioned that NBC was considering purchasing colored photographs of CIA from Stanley Tretick. Tretick, a free-lance photographer from TIME magazine, was that day in the Headquarters building having his photographs reviewed for security. I immediately contacted Tretick in person, asked him to leave the screening room and questioned him about NBC's remark. Tretick stated that he would not sell any photographs to NBC nor to anyone else in the United States. He added that he would sell them overseas. This last statement gave me problems and I indicated to Tretick that I would discuss that with him at a later time. My big mistake was falsely assuming (Tretick gave me no time schedule) that he intended to sell the photographs after TIME was published.

2. The thought that TIME would sell the photographs remained foremost in my mind but due to other problems it was Saturday morning, 11 June, before I finally took action. I called Strobe Talbott, the correspondent who wrote the article accompanying the photographs. Talbott seemed quite surprised to learn that Tretick would sell the photographs and promised to discuss the matter with Tretick. Tretick called me Saturday morning and expressed surprise that I was so upset. I told Tretick as I had Talbott that it was my clear understanding that Tretick was working exclusively for TIME magazine and not for "Stanley Tretick Enterprises;" that no mention had ever been made to me prior to the previous Wednesday that Tretick would retain any rights to the photographs, and it certainly never entered my mind that he would retain the rights to sell the exclusive photographs all over the world. I explained that my personal credibility would be seriously damaged, both within the CIA and with other U.S. media who had requested permission to photograph the Headquarters. Tretick said he would call back.

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3. Later in the morning Tretick called again to say the photographs had already been mailed by the syndicate through whom he was selling them and that it was too late to retrieve them. I told Tretick I felt this was a breach of my arrangement with TIME magazine and that I intended to so inform the management of TIME.



Herbert E. Hetu

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